

THE NOTICEBOARD



The Black Isle Local Place Plan - Your opportunity to help create a Black Isle that we are proud to call home. A Black Isle fit for future generations.

Funded by the Black Isle Area Committee, through the Place Based Investment fund, the aim of the plan is to provide a Black Isle wide vision for the future. It will build on existing consultations and surveys and over the next few weeks we will be consulting with communities across the Black Isle to find out what your priorities for the Black Isle might be. There will be eight drop-in events held in Community Council areas across the Black Isle, where we'll be seeking your views.

What do you want the Black Isle and your communities to be like in the future? What are the changes you would like to see? What kind of voice do we want to have, sitting in the middle of the Greenport bubble?

Your answers will give you and your Community Council real influence over the future of your community, because they will be the basis of the Black Isle Local Place Plan - a new feature of Scottish planning legislation that influences Council planning policy and public services. To achieve that, the first stage is for you to tell us what really matters to your communities. Please drop in at one of the March events for a chat and a cuppa.

Then, over the next few months, we'll organise more events with residents, businesses, Community Councils, Highland Council councillors and staff, and other groups and organisations to work out how to tackle what matters to you in the future. The work is being funded by the Council, so we hope it will have a real impact.

Our logo *Opportunity Black Isle* is in response to the awarding of Greenport status to Opportunity Cromarty Firth. We are not in any way affiliated to the Greenport. We want to highlight the fact that we're responsible for creating our own opportunities. The Local Place Plan gives us, the local community, a great opportunity to determine what life on the Black Isle will look like in the coming years. We look forward to working together.

The **Community Engagement Event** for **Ferintosh Community Council area** will take place **Thursday 16th March, 3.00pm – 8.00pm at Findon Hall, Culbokie**. Come along, enjoy a cup of tea and some cake and share your views with us. We'd like to hear from as many different folk as possible. It's really important we gather a wide range of views from all sectors of the community.

If you can't make the event in your local area, you will be warmly welcomed at any of the events across the Black Isle. For further information please contact either myself: becky@blackislestud.co.uk or Nick Wright at: nick@nickwrightplanning.co.uk **Tel: 07900 334110**

Becky Richmond
Project Manager Black Isle Local Place Plan



Opportunity Black Isle
Your place, your future

What do you want the Black Isle and your communities to be like in the future?

What are the changes you would like to see? What kind of voice do we want to have, sitting in the middle of the Greenport bubble?

This is your opportunity to create a Black Isle that we are proud to call home: a Black Isle fit for future generations.

Drop in for a chat and a cuppa at any of the events listed and help plan your community for the future.

Cromarty
Monday 13th March
3:30pm-7:30pm
West Church Hall

Resolis
Wednesday 15th March
3.30pm-7pm
Resolis Hall

Ferintosh
Thursday 16th March
3pm-8pm
Findon Hall

Knockbain: North Kessock
Tuesday 21st March
4pm-7pm
North Kessock Bowling Club

Knockbain: Munlochy
Wednesday 22nd March
4.30pm-6.30pm
Munlochy Hall

Avoch & Killen
Tuesday 28th March
3pm-7pm
Avoch Parish Church Hall, Rose St

Killearnan
Wednesday 29th March
3.30pm-7.30pm
Killearnan Church Hall

Fortrose & Rosemarkie
Thursday 30th March
3.30pm-6.30pm
Gordon Memorial Hall, Rosemarkie

More information from Becky Richmond, Project Manager, Black Isle Local Place Plan
becky@blackislestud.co.uk or Nick Wright nick@nickwrightplanning.co.uk 07900 334110

A Message From the Editor

A very belated Happy New Year and apologies that it's taken so long to get this issue out to you.

Discussions on how you receive The Noticeboard are still ongoing, however, issues will be monthly from now on and will come out just after the monthly Community Council meeting.

I unashamedly place the Black Isle Local Place Plan Consultation article on the front page. This has the potential to be a really important piece of work for the Black Isle, and the fact that it is community led gives us all a real chance to identify priority needs and opportunities for the Black Isle. I urge you all to come along on Thursday and give us your views.

As always, if you've any good news stories or photos you'd like to share please get in touch.

Becky



Northern Lights by Iain Richmond

Culbokie Community Trust

A.G.M. - Monday 20th March, 7.00pm in Culbokie Church Centre

The CCT A.G.M. takes place on Monday 20th March, 7.00pm in Culbokie Church Centre. All relevant papers are available at culbokiect.org The A.G.M. will be followed immediately after with a talk by Eelco DeJong of Forestry and Land Scotland on **'The Black Isle Land Management Plan and Strategic Development'** and will last about 20 minutes, with time for questions and answers after. The A.G.M. and the talk are open to both members and non-members. If you'd like to attend remotely, please email: event@culbokiect.org and you will be sent joining instructions.

Culbokie Community Market

Indoor market and café in Findon Hall

Saturdays 18th March and 15th April 1000-1200

**High quality local produce and crafts
(Pro Fish and Highland Prime outside 1000-1100)**

Plus TBI seed potatoes and seeds in March

Enjoy a cuppa, cake/bacon roll and a chat in the café

Make it a date and support our local producers

Outdoors Every Saturday 10.00-11.00

**Car Park beside the Church
Meat and fish**



Culbokie Sharing Shed

Winter Hours - Open Every Day 1000-1530 beside Church

Thanks for all the great donations over the festive season and to our team of volunteers who look after it. Thanks also to Culbokie Primary School and Culbokie Spar for their continuing support. It's just lovely to see the Sharing Shed being so well supported and used by our community. So many items are being reused and recycled. Please continue to pop things in the boxes as you have a wee clear out in 2023.

FareShare now have a facility in Alness and they hope to deliver food items twice a month, and sanitary products as needed. Their fresh fruit and vegetables are always a hit and help to reduce the food waste from the supermarkets. Non-perishable food is always appreciated.

If there are specific needs within the community then please let us know. All monetary donations help provide additional food items. Please donate if you can when you borrow or take an item from the shed.

(Donations can be popped into the bins at the back but please ensure items are complete, in date, clean and no clothes/shoes/material etc)

Larger items can be advertised in the shed or on Facebook.

Keep supporting our lovely little shed which is special place to check out for all ages.

There are now 195 Facebook members - to keep up-to-date with what's available join the Culbokie Sharing Shed group on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/343545136916931/>

Further information can be found on the CCT website: www.culbokiect.org

The History Group

Exposed at Low Tide

Given the open aspect of the view down to the Cromarty Firth many of you will have observed what appear to be unusual shapes in the mud/sand at low tide and whilst walking and cycling past wondered about their significance. We are referring to the remains of fishing yairs. Those associated with the history of Culbokie are located just below Findon Mains and below Urquhart Farm next to the burial ground for the former Urquhart Church. The story of fishing and these yairs as it influenced the Culbokie community can be accessed from this page <https://history.culbokiect.org/index.asp?pageid=724563>

All that is left of the yairs are the foundation stones, as the wooden posts, nets etc. would have soon rotted once they went out of use.

One very obvious 'structure' that can be observed to the south from the causeway as you approach the Black Isle (drivers take care) is a rectangular area created with stones. The purpose of this has not been conclusively discovered. Any ideas – answers on a postcard as they used to say.

Miller

Culbokie Community Cycling Group



Culbokie has a thriving (but not particularly athletic) cycle club, with weekly social rides planned for the evenings once the clocks change, plus occasional longer rides, mostly based around local cafes. For anyone wondering if this might suit them, here's an account from one of our members:

"It was early 2021 that, out of the blue, I decided to take up cycling again not having been on a bike for over 40 years. It was when I needed a bit of advice on my newly acquired second hand bike that I first came across the Culbokie Cycle group. What a welcome I got! They are a friendly bunch and although a few of them are very experienced cyclists they are in no way scary!

They lead regular social cycle rides of varying lengths. I found these 'led' cycle rides an ideal way of getting back into cycling. I have to admit, at this point, I had never actually been 'into cycling'. The last time I cycled I didn't even have gears on my bike!

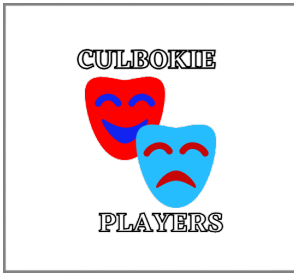
In the course of my first few rides I learnt, with a lot of patient support, how to use my gears properly. What a difference gears make particularly when negotiating the hills around Culbokie!

Thanks to the Culbokie Cycle group I have discovered many different local cycle routes and have become more confident on the road. I may still always be at the tail end of the group, huffing and puffing but I have never felt left behind nor that I am holding the group back. The rides are, above all things, social rides and everyone who goes, sees them as such.

Last year the Cycle group ran a 'Couch to 25K' which my adult son took part in. This was a graduated course over 6 weeks which took a complete beginner and helped them build up their knowledge, ability and fitness, culminating in a 25K cycle – which included a coffee/cake stop. He thoroughly enjoyed it and will now confidently cycle to Cromarty or Dingwall on his own.

My 'cycle journey' has been a positive one – there really is nothing more satisfying than cycling on the Black Isle on a beautiful sunny day. It is food for the soul!"

For anyone who wants to know more, the group will be at the April Community Market with two e-bikes available on short loan (and quite a few group members use e-bikes to flatten the hills a bit!). Alternatively, there's a membership form available on the [CCT website](#), or email cycling@culbokiect.org.



Culbokie Players

CULBOKIE PLAYERS
EVENTS 2023

UPCOMING

Putting the 'C' into Culbokie and Community.
Come and join us throughout the year in Findon Hall for some fun, frolics and frivolity, whilst helping us raise funds, so we can continue to bring you the best Culbokie Pantos!

- 6TH MAY** CROWNS AND CORONETS
CORONATION DANCE
7:30PM
- 1ST JULY** THE CULBOKIE
SPECTACULAR
7:30PM
- 8TH, 9TH,
10TH DEC** PANTOMIME
PERFORMANCES
7:30PM
- DEC 31ST** HOGMANAY HOOLIE
8:30PM

CULBOKIE

PLAYERS

POSTERS WILL FOLLOW WITH MORE INFORMATION ON THESE EVENTS.
YOU CAN ALSO KEEP UP TO DATE WITH WHAT THE CULBOKIE PLAYERS ARE UP TO BY LIKING AND FOLLOWING OUR FACEBOOK PAGE @CULBOKIE PLAYERS

Culbokie Church Centre

Culbokie Church Centre activities

Sunday morning services at 10.30am (also online at www.cruparish.online.church and via Facebook, and on Youtube afterwards)

Sunday School & creche on the second and fourth Sundays of the month: 12 and 26 March; 9 and 23 April; 14 and 28 May



Café on Tuesday afternoons from 1.30 to 3.45pm



Line dancing on Wednesday mornings at 10am



Walking group on Thursday mornings at 10am



Lent bible study on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm on 2, 10, 24 and 31 March



Senior Citizen's Friendship Group on the first Monday of the month at 2-4pm, with the next meetings on 6 March, 3 April and 1 May



Women's Fellowship on the third Thursday of the month at 7.30pm, with the next meetings on 16 March, 20 April and 18 May



Soup lunch on the last Saturday of the month from 12 to 2pm, with the next ones on 25 March, 29 April and 27 May



Easter services

Maundy Thursday 7.30pm

Good Friday 7.30pm

Easter Sunday 10.30am



For further information, please see www.culbokiechurchcentre.org and Facebook

Ferintosh Community Council

We are fortunate to have a very active Community Council who work hard on behalf of residents. The Community Council area is spread across 3 different areas, so the Council rotate their meeting locations to reflect that.

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held on **Wednesday 12th April, 7.15pm at Mulbuie Hall**

As a resident, you can become involved in a number of ways:

- Join the FCC email list and stay up to date with their activities
- Respond to consultations that FCC circulate
- Attend meetings
- Volunteer on behalf of FCC to follow up an issue or project. Our Community Councillors are all volunteers and as the saying goes 'many hands make light work'.

If you would like to be included on the email list or are interested in finding out more, please email Bruce Morrison, Secretary at **ferintoshcc30@gmail.com / 01349 877127**

If you would like to receive an electronic copy of the Noticeboard, please email becky@brachla.co.uk and we can add you to the list.
